

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 01450 111528Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 EURE-00 SSO-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-07 H-02 INR-07 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
SP-02 OC-06 PRS-01 SS-15 USIE-00 USSS-00 SY-05
FAA-00 WRD-01 MCT-01 /083 W

-----007099 111533Z /53

O 111510Z JUL 77 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1621

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OSLO NICAT IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS HELSINKI 1450

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, PINS, FI

SUBJECT: HIJACKING OF SOVIET AIRCRAFT

REF: (A) HELSINKI 1444 (NOTAL), (B) MOSCOW 9913 (NOTAL)

1. TWENTY NINE HOSTAGES REMAIN ABOARD HIJACKED SOVIET AIRLINER PARKED AT HELSINKI AIRPORT FOLLOWING RELEASE OF FURTHER PASSENGERS BY TWO HIJACKERS, WHO HAVE APPARENTLY GAINED NO CONCESSIONS FROM FINNISH AUTHORITIES. PRESS REPORTS THAT SWEDISH OFFICIALS HAVE REJECTED REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO LAND IN STOCKHOLM. FUEL REMAINING IN AIRCRAFT IS REPORTEDLY ONLY ABOUT TWO TONS, NOT ENOUGH TO FLY BEYOND FINNISH BORDER.

2. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE HIJACKERS HAVE ASKED ABOUT ALTERNATIVE DESTINATIONS BUT FINNS HAVE NOT RELEASED DETAILS. HOWEVER WE HAVE HEARD BOTH NORWAY AND UNCLASSIFIED

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DENMARK MENTIONED. REGARDLESS OF DESTINATION, DEPARTURE WOULD DEPEND NOT ONLY ON REFUELING OF AIRCRAFT BUT ALSO ON FINDING CREW, AS THE FINNS REPORTEDLY HAVE NO PILOTS QUALIFIED IN TUPOLEV.

3. ACCORDING TO NEWS BROADCAST HIJACKERS HAD SET DEADLINE TO BLOW UP AIRCRAFT IF DEMANDS NOT

MET BUT DEADLINE HAS NOW BEEN PASSED WITHOUT ACTION.

4. COMMUNICATION MINISTER SAARTO HAS BEEN REPLACED BY EDUCATION MINISTER KIVISTO IN TASK FORCE. IT APPEARS THAT FINNISH GOVERNMENT IS APPROACHING PROBLEM WITH DELIBERATION. CRISIS ATMOSPHERE HAS BEEN AVOIDED AT AIRPORT, WHERE NORMAL TRAFFIC HAS BEEN ALLOWED DURING DAY. AIRCRAFT ITSELF AND RESULTS OF TALKS WITH HIJACKERS HAVE BEEN KEPT FROM PUBLIC ACCESS.

5. FINNISH RADIO HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THERE ARE ONLY SOVIET NATIONALS ON BOARD AIRCRAFT.

HOUSTON

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977HELSIN01450
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770245-1281
Format: TEL
From: HELSINKI
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: CASC, PINS, FI, US, UR, AEROFLOT
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